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C.I.A. Denounced in Geneva

Special to The New York Times

✓ GENEVA, Feb. 20 — Sean MacBride, secretary general of the International Commission of Jurists, denounced the United States Central Intelligence

Agency today for its "highly dangerous" activities.

Commenting on the disclosures of the undercover use of foundations as conduits for funds, Mr. MacBride said such conduct was "damaging to America and to the democratic process in general."

The American Fund for Free Jurists of New York, which raises money for the commission, is one of the organizations that have been linked to the intelligence agency.

The commission of 31 jurists from 38 countries is a non-governmental agency that says it is supported by 47,000 lawyers grouped in 37 national sections. It seeks to advance the rule of law and human rights.

In a formal statement as the commission's chief executive officer, Mr. MacBride, a former Irish Foreign Minister, said contributions received through the activities of the American Fund for Free Jurists "have no strings attached to them."

"The same applies," the statement added, "to all subscriptions and donations which the commission receives from other parts of the world."

No Interference

Mr. MacBride said he had never found "any attempt to interfere with the policy of the commission or the objectiveness of its work."

After recalling that the commission had on several occasions voiced views that were "probably not in accord with American policy," he concluded:

"I am quite satisfied that the commission would not allow itself to be used as an instrument of American policy, much less as the instrument of such a body as the C.I.A."

In his personal comment, Mr. MacBride said the matter "should receive the attention of the American public and, indeed, of American lawyers in particular."

He said grants by governments for research and international exchanges in various fields were "natural and probably even necessary."

"However, Mr. MacBride continued, "such grants are made openly." The "vice" in the case of the C.I.A. is that "such a dubious body" should be used for the channeling of funds, he said.

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